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Security Council

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Letter dated 28 April 2012 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of South Sudan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to inform you that in accordance with the decision taken by the Peace and Security Council of the African Union at its 319th meeting, on 24 April 2012, as evidenced in paragraph 12 (i) of its communiqué, the Republic of South Sudan has conveyed in a letter to the Chairperson of the African Union Commission its commitment to an immediate cessation of all hostilities. A copy of that letter is annexed hereto.

I have the further honour to inform you that, following his return from a visit to China, President Salva Kiir Mayardit convened an urgent meeting of our Council of Ministers on 28 April 2012, during which my Government issued a formal resolution to withdraw immediately all South Sudanese police service personnel from the Abyei area. This action is consistent with the call made by the African Union in paragraph 12 (vii) of its communiqué for the parties to withdraw all armed forces from Abyei within two weeks and the continued calls by the international community for the same, most recently in the presidential statement of the Security Council of 12 April 2012 (S/PRST/2012/12).

This follows my Government's earlier decision to withdraw Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) soldiers from Abyei, as noted by the Secretary-General in his most recent report on the situation in Abyei (S/2012/175), and our recent decision to voluntarily withdraw SPLA forces from Panthou (Heglig).

All of these acts of peace are being done to reaffirm and demonstrate with concrete measures my Government's true commitment to finding a peaceful solution to the outstanding matters with the Republic of Sudan. We are confident that with these good faith gestures from South Sudan, the international community can now secure further cooperation from Sudan, help to keep our civilians safe, and bring us closer to a negotiated agreement.

I would be most grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ambassador Agnes Adlino Orifa **Oswaha**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

12-32507 (E) 300412

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Annex to the letter dated 28 April 2012 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of South Sudan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

27 April 2012

The Republic of South Sudan acknowledges the decision adopted at the 319th meeting of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union, held at the ministerial level on 24 April 2012, and in particular its call for an immediate cessation of all hostilities between Sudan and South Sudan.

In accordance with paragraph 12 (i) of the decision, I wish to convey, on behalf of the Republic of South Sudan, my Government's commitment to an immediate cessation of all hostilities and its acceptance of the call for the resumption of negotiations between the parties.

(*Signed*) Emmanuel **LoWilla**
Minister in the Office of the President
Republic of South Sudan